

THE NEW YORK TIMES, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1993

Where were you the mo John F. Kennedy was

Newsweek

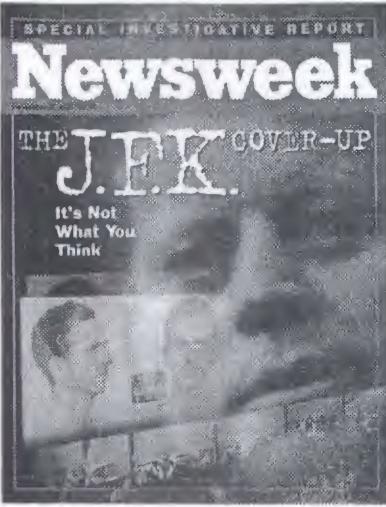
z C7

ment you heard shot?

On November 22, 1963, in a fraction of a second, the world changed forever. This week, in a special investigative report commemorating the 30th anniversary of the assassination of John F. Kennedy, Newsweek looks back at the events of that terrible day.

It's time for Newsweek

Winner of the National Magazine Award for General Excellence



"I remember the day well. I was at the office when I heard. I ran out of my office into the hall — I wanted to call out the news to everyone. I started to cry; I couldn't get the words out. Everyone stayed congregated in the halls for some time. We all wanted to be together with each other in our sorrow."

Ed Meyer
Chairman/President and
Chief Executive Officer
Grey Advertising



"A switchboard operator in my law office blurted it out as I passed. First, there was shock, then confusion, then I went to St. Charles Borromeo Church and sat in a pew for a long time wondering."

Mario M. Cuomo
Governor
State of New York

PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES M. COOPER FOR NEWSWEEK

Ed Meyer
Chairman/President and
Chief Executive Officer
Grey Advertising



"I was in my third year of college, and I was walking with my friend, Alan Placa, now Monsignor Placa. Someone came up to us and said that President Kennedy had been shot. At first, we thought it was a joke or a wild report. Then, someone else said it to us. We went to a radio nearby where we heard the news report. Then we went to my car and put on the radio. We sat in the car for over one hour just listening in shock because we didn't want to leave until they announced it, that he was actually dead."

Rudolph Giuliani
Mayor Elect, City of New York



"I was leaving the Beverly Hills Post Office. Just outside, I noticed a man crying hysterically. I went over to ask him if he was alright. He told me that JFK had just been shot. The only thing I could think of asking was, 'Are you kidding?' At that point, I began to cry along with him."

Soupy Sales
Comedian

PHOTOGRAPH BY JAMES M. COOPER FOR NEWSWEEK



"I was in our CBS evening newsroom in New York where I read the first bulletin from UPI, that shots had rung out in Dealey Plaza. Soon afterward, a second bulletin said that the President apparently had been hit and the motorcade was on its way to a hospital. At that point, we took air, to remain there for the next four days."

Walter Cronkite
CBS News Correspondent



"I was seeing pediatric surgical patients in my office at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and one of my secretaries came in crying saying that she had just heard it on the radio."

Dr. C. Everett Koop
Surgeon General/U.S. Public Health Service, 1981-1989



"I was on a plane en route to Washington, D.C. I was stunned and horrified, and I was hoping, when the first reports were aired, that he would live. The impact of the tragedy was not yet fully realized."

Michael E. DeBakey, M.D.
Chancellor
Baylor College of Medicine



"I was sitting in a barbershop in Manhattan. I saw it on television. When it flashed across the screen everybody froze. People in the shop were in disbelief, total disbelief. The haircut was over."

Barry Slotnick
Attorney



"I was working on the State Theatre [Lincoln Center] at the time when a worker came over to my group and told us the terrible news. We could no longer continue to work that day."

Philip Johnson
Architect



"I was in school [8th grade] in English class and an announcement came over the school PA system, and everybody started crying, including the teacher. I remember it being one of the saddest days of my life."

Billy Joel
Musician/Songwriter



"When President Kennedy was shot, I was at the first anniversary party for our hotel, the Americana of San Juan. Pearl Mesta was our hostess. It was just around cocktail time in Puerto Rico when we heard. We were stunned and couldn't believe our ears. We rushed to the TV set to get the details. We were scheduled to be at the hotel for five days - but everyone agreed that we should return home immediately."

Robert Preston Tisch
President
Co-Chief Executive Officer
Loews Corporation



"I was at home asleep and someone called to tell me. I was shocked. It was a feeling that I'll never forget."

Ray Charles
Musician/Songwriter



"I was in New Delhi working as Chief Asian Correspondent for *The Baltimore Sun*, when my Indian assistant phoned me in great distress with the news. My assistant knew that I had met privately with the President over the years, including an informal White House session earlier in 1963, so his condolences were deeply personal as well as formal."

Louis Rukeyser
Host
Wall Street Week With Louis Rukeyser
Editor in Chief,
Louis Rukeyser's Wall Street



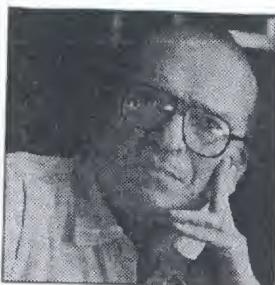
"In 1963 I was a young partner in a small, corporate law firm with offices on Wall Street. I was returning from lunch with a client. As we strode along, we passed a parked car with four or five people clustered around it, looking stricken. One of them turned to me as we were about to enter my building and said, 'The President's been shot! The President's been shot!' My client looked at me and said, 'That guy must be crazy.' But I knew from the expression on his face that it was the world that was crazy and not the guy listening to the car radio."

Morton L. Janklow
Senior Partner
Janklow & Nesbit Associates



"When it was announced that the President was dead, Martin had been very quiet during this period. Finally he said, 'This is exactly what is going to happen to me. I keep telling you, I don't expect to survive this revolution. Our society is too sick.' I had no words to comfort my husband. I could not say to him, 'It won't happen to you.'"

Coretta Scott King
President
Martin Luther King Jr. Center For Nonviolent Social Change



"We were in the middle of shooting one of the most difficult shots on *The Pawnbroker* when the news came through. All work stopped. We broke for lunch. When we came back, none of us had the heart to go on and we stopped shooting for the day."

Sidney Lumet
Film Director



"On November 22, 1963, I was in my law office at 52 Wall Street when a fellow attorney rushed in and told me that President Kennedy had been assassinated. I burst into tears. After turning on the radio and confirming the tragic news, I laid down on the couch in my office and wept."

Edward I. Koch
Former Mayor of
the City of New York
Partner, Robinson Silverman
Pearce Aronsohn & Berman



"I was playing golf. The weather was beautiful. I was at the 5th or 6th hole — someone ran over to us and said the President was shot. Everybody dropped everything and ran inside. What a terrible thing. The furthest thing from anyone's mind was to go back to finish the game. Discussions ensued about the future of the U.S. Everyone was glued to their TV sets."

Phil Rizzuto
Former NY Yankees Shortstop



"I was on the steps of the library at Fresno State when someone walked up to us and told us the news. We were very surprised and completely shocked."

Tom Seaver
Former NY Mets Pitcher



"I had taken my family for a drive and as we returned, my neighbor came out and said, 'Isn't it terrible about the President,' and told me that the President had been assassinated. The next day I had a rehearsal - we were rehearsing a comedy, and we found ourselves staring out the window - no one could believe it."

Alan Alda
Actor/Writer/Director



"On November 22nd, 1963, I was home with my then six-month-old son. My daughter was in first grade. I was very upset that my children would not have the opportunity to be in this country with this great leader. I felt this way especially because I came out of Nazi Germany, having been orphaned by the Nazis at the age of ten. Naively, I thought that bad people who assassinated would only do so during wartime."

Dr. Ruth Westheimer
Psychosexual Therapist



"I checked my watch. It was nearly 12:30 pm, the time the President was due at the Trade Mart. I had not heard a shot but the motorcade was already in disarray. Something had happened. I started off at a full run. Then I saw a scene I will never forget. Some people were lying on the grass, some screaming, some running. I heard one policeman shout, 'Don't anybody panic.' But, there was nothing but panic anywhere you looked."

Dan Rather
CBS News Correspondent



"I was playing Pro Basketball for the Detroit Pistons at the time. We had just finished a practice session and I was shooting free throws. One of the ball boys ran into the gym and screamed 'President Kennedy has been shot and they think he's dead.' He repeated this statement and added 'I'm not kidding.' I then shot an air ball and sank to my knees."

Dave DeBusschere
Former NY Knicks Basketball
Player and Hall of Famer



"I was at my grandmother's house getting ready to be a bridesmaid for my cousin's wedding. Everyone was busy, frantic, rushing around. Then my uncle, whom I always saw as very serious and formidable, walked in with tears streaming down his cheeks. When we heard why, a dark cloud descended, and the wedding ended up feeling like a funeral."

Pamela Maraldo, Ph.D.
President, Planned Parenthood
Federation of America



"I learned about the assassination while working in my real estate office on what was my 28th birthday. This tragic day is embedded in my brain forever. My parents were out of the country on vacation and called me when they heard the news and we all cried."

Fred Wilpon
Chairman of the Board
Sterling Equities
President/CEO NY Mets